

FOR RELEASE: May 18, 2000

Paul Named "Taxpayers Best Friend" for '99

Washington, D.C. - On Wednesday, the independent, nonpartisan National Taxpayers Union, once again, named Congressman Ron Paul as the 1999 "Taxpayers Best Friend" in the House of Representatives. The NTU gave Paul the highest rating of any member in the House for his votes on issues concerning fiscal policy. Paul has received the honor in the past, but said he was honored to be recognized again. Paul said, "It is truly an honor to be recognized by the NTU for my dedication to lower taxes and promotion of local control over tax dollars. During my tenure in Congress, I have worked hard to put the taxpayer first. It is refreshing to see that my efforts have not gone unnoticed." Paul received an 89% "Taxpayer Score" for his commitment to reducing federal spending, taxes, debt and regulation. NTU President John Berthoud said more members of Congress would have to join Paul in fighting for taxpayers if we are to avoid a major economic downturn. "Ron Paul and his tax-fighting colleagues in Congress may have forestalled a fiscal free fall," Berthoud said. "But until most members of Congress can consistently bring themselves to vote for taxpayers interests more often than special interests, Americans may be in for a bumpy ride in years to come." Unlike many organizations, the NTU's rating does not simplistically focus on only a handful of equally weighted votes. For this reason, it has received praise from lawmakers from both parties for covering almost every roll call vote involving federal money. The NTU is a nonprofit, nonpartisan citizen organization working for lower taxes, less wasteful spending, taxpayer rights, and accountable government at all levels. The 1999 rating will be available on line at www.ntu.org.